Additional powers to NCW

*202. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:
SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases involving violation of women's rights are proposed to be handed over to National Commission for Women, with provision of prosecution as enjoyed by National Human Rights Commission; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Commission would have its own investigating agencies or would depend upon usual State agencies;

(c) whether a study of advantages accrued to National Human Rights Commission after giving it such powers has been made, if so, whether it would make qualitative change in functioning of NCW; and

(d) the other steps taken for effective implementation of legal provisions relating to women, which are being violated?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Government is considering a proposal to strengthen the National Commission for Women to enable it to carry out its mandate more effectively. A final view on this would be taken shortly based on which appropriate legislative changes will be brought before the Parliament.

(d) Government is taking several measures for effective implementation of legal provisions relating to women including review of existing legislation, interaction with State Governments and monitoring of implementation of these provisions.

Forest and barren land for mining

*203. SHRI LAKKHIRAM AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) how much forest or barren land was acquired during the last